

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-18 (canceled).

Claim 19 (new): A method for rendering input data simultaneously into output data having two output formats including a first output format and a second output format, the method comprising the steps of:

dividing the output data into a plurality of bands; and

sequentially processing each of the plurality of bands, wherein the processing of each of the plurality of bands includes:

i) generating first output data having the first output format; and

ii) generating, from the first output data, second output data having the second output format, wherein the first output format is different from the second output format; wherein

the first output format is a bitmap arranged to drive a main output device, and the second output format is arranged to drive a proofing device; and

each of the plurality of bands is processed into the first output format and the second output format before a next of the plurality of bands is processed into the first output format and the second output format.

Claim 20 (new): The method according to claim 19, wherein the main output device is an imagesetter or a platesetter.

Claim 21 (new): The method of claim 19, wherein the first output data for each of the plurality of bands includes data for a plurality of colors.

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Claim 22 (new): The method according to claim 19, wherein the step of generating the second output data having the second output format includes the step of descreening the first output data for each of the plurality of bands.

Claim 23 (new): The method according to claim 19, further comprising the steps of:

temporarily storing a first portion of the first output data for a first of the plurality of bands wherein the first portion adjoins data for a second of the plurality of bands; and

using the first portion of the first output data for the first of the plurality of bands to connect the second output data for the first of the plurality of bands to the second output data for the second of the plurality of bands.

Claim 24 (new): The method according to claim 19, further comprising the step of:

appending the first output data for each of the plurality of bands, thus obtaining the output data in the first output format.

Claim 25 (new): The method according to claim 19, wherein each of the plurality of bands is smaller than a single page of the output data.

Claim 26 (new): The method according to claim 19, further comprising the steps of:

sending each of the first output data having the first output format to the main output device and the second output data having the second output format to the proofing device before the next of the plurality of bands is processed.

Claim 27 (new): A system for processing data comprising:
means for defining a plurality of bands constituting output data;
means for sequentially processing each of the plurality of bands, the means for

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sequentially processing including:

i) an output renderer arranged to render from input data for each of the plurality of bands first output data in a first output format;

ii) an output generator arranged to generate for each of the plurality of bands, from the first output data, second output data in a second output format, wherein the first output format is different from the second output format; and means for sending the output data in the first output format to a main output device; and

means for sending the output data in the second output format to a proofing device; wherein

the means for sending the output data in the first output format and the means for sending the output data in the second output format are arranged to send each of the plurality of bands of the output data in the first output format to the main output device and the output data in the second output format to the proofing device before sending the output data for a next of the plurality of bands.

Claim 28 (new): The system according to claim 27, wherein the main output device is an imagesetter or a platesetter.